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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/624,216	07/22/2003	Kevin L. Parsons	88318	7045

24628 7590 02/16/2005

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EXAMINER

HUSAR, STEPHEN F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2875

DATE MAILED: 02/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AKC

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/624,216	PARSONS, KEVIN L.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Stephen F. Husar	2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 18-37 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 15-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7, 8, 11 and 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/23/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 17 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. Note claim 17 depends on claim 17 and as such does not limit a previous claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

4. Claims 1-6,9,10,12,13, and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schnell (6619813) in view of Sharrah (6609811). Schnell shows the invention substantially as claimed except for the rearward end having a split-ring clip portion. Schnell shows in Fig.3 a ring clip "302" but it is unclear whether the key ring clip

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is a split-ring clip. Sharrah is applied to show that it is well known in the art to use a split-ring clip "37" as shown in Fig.1 as a key ring. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to substitute the split-ring clip of Sharrah for the ring clip of Schnell in order to allow attaching and removing keys to the ring clip. Re claim 2, see LED "120" in Fig.2 of Schnell. Re claims 3-5, see a pair of batteries "250" in Fig.2 of Schnell with leads "252,254" on opposite sides of the battery "250". Re claims 15-17, Schnell shows in Fig.4; a carrier having a pair of laterally opposed arms "412,414" as per claim 15, a mounting clip "200" grasping an article of clothing "402" as per claim 16, and the mounting clip "200" is generally U-shaped as per claim 17. Re claims 6,9,10,12 and 13, these claims set forth housing details that are not shown in Schnell. Sharrah shows that it is known in the art to provide an annular insulating spacer "31" shown in Fig.2 as per claim 6, a body portion including a cup-shaped recess "38" as shown in Fig.2 as per claim 9, an elastomeric top cover "39" as shown in Fig.2 as per claim 10, and a replaceable bottom wall "30" made of plastic as shown in Fig.2 as per claims 12-13. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the above mentioned flashlight housing and switch details shown by Sharrah in the flashlight of Schnell for the purpose and advantage of providing a lightweight and easily manufactured flashlight.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 7,8,11, and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.


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6. Claims 18-37 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen F. Husar whose telephone number is 571-272-2371. The examiner can normally be reached on M-W and F from 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 571-272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Stephen F. Husar
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2875

SFH